

meetings. We've had bills moving through three houses in this Congress—two in the House and in the Senate. Republicans have had their shot. We need this bill. Let's stand up for America and have health care.

HEALTH CARE

(Mrs. BACHMANN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. BACHMANN. Mr. Speaker, the Republicans were just castigated for being the party of "no," and I would submit that it is just the opposite, and this is why.

The President of the United States, in a historic move, gave a speech to the joint session of the House. He said, If any Republicans have positive ideas, they need to come to me, and I'll be happy to sit down with them.

Well, I wrote a letter to the President, taking him up on that wonderful offer, and said, I have a positive alternative, Mr. President. Could I sit down and share that with you? I'm still waiting by my desk for that return phone call, and I have yet to receive the courtesy reply as have multiple of my Republican colleagues offered to the President to share with him their positive alternatives.

The party of "no" is the party that locks the door on Republicans to even prevent them from coming into a committee room to offer our positive alternatives. We have them. What has the majority offered? They've offered to cut Medicare to senior citizens by \$500 billion. Is that a positive alternative? We have loads of them. We're the party of "yes."

Stop being the party of "no."

HEALTH CARE

(Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, all of the American people need health care now. Reform must come, and it's coming to the floor very soon.

For those who are pleased with their health care insurance, they can keep it. Their costs might even go down with reform. What we want to do is rescue the insurance from under anti-trust-ignoring insurance companies. We all pay insurance, and we like insurance, but no one wants to be abused by any system, and we have seen that happen.

The hospitals are attempting to perform all of this uncompensated care. With this reform, it will be different. I suppose that correcting preexisting conditions and getting sick will cause some to lose health care support. We must make this change.

You know, I keep hearing what the Republicans are saying, but Mr. Speaker, but that's not what the plan says.

REPEATING OUR MISTAKES

(Mr. MCCLINTOCK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, today's unemployment rate of 9.8 percent last reached that level in 1983. President Ronald Reagan responded by cutting taxes and by reducing regulatory burdens on the economy, and he produced the biggest peacetime economic expansion in our Nation's history.

Today, President Obama is doing exactly the opposite. ObamaCare, cap-and-trade and the other measures promise the biggest tax increases and the heaviest regulations that we've ever seen.

Three Presidents within the last 100 years have responded to recessions by reducing taxes and regulations. Warren Harding, John F. Kennedy and Ronald Reagan all produced rapid and dramatic economic recoveries.

We've had two Presidents in those 100 years who reacted to recessions by doing the opposite—Herbert Hoover in the early 1930s, who radically increased taxes and spending and who imposed unprecedented burdens on trade, and the other is Barack Obama.

As they say, those who refuse to learn from history are condemned to repeat it.

HEALTH REFORM

(Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I have to admit that I've never heard someone quote Herbert Hoover as being so bad and President Obama as being so good. We have to remember that Herbert Hoover was actually a Republican.

Mr. Speaker, am I supposed to have the floor or do the Republicans have it part time?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Texas is recognized for 1 minute.

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I rise in strong support of a national health care plan that provides comprehensive health care for every American.

Three House committees had many public hearings and public votes on the bill, H.R. 3200. Democrats are using the same public rules that the Republicans used when they were in charge. They just don't like them because they don't have the majority now.

We have so many people uninsured in our country. My own district has the highest uninsured in the country of people who have private insurance—35 percent of our district has private health care, and over 40 percent is uninsured because they can't afford it or their employers don't provide it.

We've given private insurance companies plenty of time to cover the 39

million U.S. citizens who don't have health care, but they can't do it because they can't make a profit on someone like that. So that's why we need a public option. H.R. 3200 will help that. We will have health care for everyone.

□ 1330

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Members are requested not to traffic the well when another Member is under recognition.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

(Mr. MILLER of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, the constituents of the First District of Florida and the people across this country have spoken loud and clear: We do not want a public option or government-run health care.

But I guess the Democrats can't hear from behind closed doors.

The majority leaders have turned a deaf ear to the American people and continue to insist on a public option. Whether it be an exchange, a co-op, single payer, or whether States opt in or opt out, the fact is the majority party leaders, behind closed doors, are crafting a final health care bill that would force a public option down our throats.

If a robust public option is absolutely critical to health insurance for Americans, then why does this increased coverage not occur until at least 5 years after enactment?

This health care reform bill is a farce and should be voted down. Americans don't want government-run health care as their only option.

HEALTH CARE

(Ms. SCHWARTZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Mr. Speaker, as I sit here and listen to one after another of the Republicans here in Congress finding reasons not to move ahead, not to find that uniquely American solution to helping every American have access to health insurance, the fact is that we have to do more. We have to act right now to ensure that every American has access to insurance coverage; that that insurance coverage is affordable, and that it is meaningful; that it covers preexisting conditions and provides for ongoing care for chronic diseases; that we can ensure that Americans get quality care and the right care, including for our seniors.

Legislation we have coming before us protects seniors, makes sure that they see lower copayments for primary care,